TO BE READ WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MEMORANDUM ON SAFEGUARDS FOR LINGUISTIC MINORITIES.

MEMORANDUM CONTAINING THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE ON THE SAFEGUARDS FOR LINGUISTIC MINORITIES.

GENERAL.

The Chief Linguistic Minorities in this State are Telugu, Urdu (Hindustani), Marathi and Tamil. The population of the several linguistic groups is shown below:-

LANGUAGE	POPULATION	PERCENTAGE.
1. Kannada	12,598, 339	62.2
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4. Marathi	1,251,969	6.2
5. Tulu	714,324	3.5
6. Tamil	703,039	3.5
7. Konkani	419,278	2.1
8. Malayalam	194,199	1.0
9. Banajari	88,878	3.5
10. Hindi	62,778	0.3
11. Gujerathi	24,357	0.1
12. English	16,187	0.08

1. PRIMARY EDUCATION.

(a) Special Schools for linguistic minorities

The accepted policy of the State Government has been to provide for the imparting of instruction in the Primary stage (including Middle School stage) in the medium of the mother-tongue of the pupils. Out of the 22,254 Primary and Middle Schools, 2,924 schools or about 13 per cent are special institutions for linguistic minorities, as shown below:-

LANGUAGE	PRIMARY SCHOOLS	MIDDLE SCHOOLS.
1. Urdu	1937	76
2. Marathi	742	-
3. Tamil	89	19
4. Telugu	50	-
5. Hindi	3	2
6. Sindhi	3	-
7. Gujerathi	3	-

Thus, corresponding to the total percentage of 37.8 percent of the population, belonging to several linguistic minorities, 13 per cent of the total number of schools are special schools for linguistic minorities. Considering the wide scattering of the linguistic minorities throughout the new State and some of the minorities are more in the form of dialect closely akin to recognised languages, it will be seen that considerable Head way has been made in the matter of provision of educational safeguards for the linguistic minorities at the primary stage.

(b) CURRICULUM

The reorganised Primary School curriculum which has been prepared after the re-organisation of State, provides for instruction in the mother tongue throughout the 7 year integrated course. English is to be studied from Class V and Hindi from Class VI. These provisions are in accordance with the recommendation of expert all India and State Committees and Boards for Education. In the re-organised curriculum, provision has also been made for instruction in Kannada (regional language) from Class III for the benefit of pupils of linguistic minorities, so that they may be enabled to undergo

instruction in the medium of the regional language at the High School stage.

(c) COMMON SCHOOLS.

The question whether special Schools should be established, or whether additional sections for pupils of linguistic minorities should be provided in the General Schools which are already existing has come up for consideration in recent years. Government are of the view that the latter policy is preferable considering the desirability and need for the free mixing of pupils of different language groups in Co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. This policy will not come in the way of instruction in the languages of the minority groups, while, at the same time, it has the advantage of allowing for the education of all language groups in the common, unifying atmosphere of a general school.

(d) TRAINING OF TEACHERS IN MINORITY LANGUAGES:

Special facilities are provided in the State for the training of teachers in minority languages.

In pursuance of the recommendation of the Education Ministers' Conference held in September, 1957 that facilities for Education of linguistic Minorities should be expanded, further expansion of facilities for Teachers' Training in this regard have been provided for, in the Development Programme of 1958-59, by undertaking training of Urdu and Marathi teachers in additional sections attached to the Training Institutuions at Karwar and ~~Jamkhandi~~. Further provision for training teachers in Tamil, Telugu and other minority languages will be made in the year 1959-60, depending on the availability of funds.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

1) So far, while a liberal policy of starting Primary Schools for linguistic minorities has been followed, each case is being dealt with, on merits, considering the demands and available facilities.

2) A pupil teacher ratio of 1 teacher to 40 pupils suggested by the Government of India cannot be adopted in the case of sections or schools for linguistic minorities at the primary stage. Owing to the wide dispersal of the linguistic minorities, it may be necessary to open additional sections, or new schools on the basis of a smaller number of pupils per teacher. Government consider that additional sections and schools for linguistic minorities might be started when there is a minimum strength of 20 pupils.

(2) SECONDARY EDUCATION.

a) Special Schools:

Out of the total 532 High Schools, 23 schools are High Schools for minority language, 2 for Urdu, 2 for Hindi, 13 for Marathi and for Gujarathi.

In Ex-Mysore area, while Kannada is the medium of instruction generally in all schools, provision for English medium sections is made for those pupils whose mother tongue is a language other than the regional language. Generally speaking, there has been no demand for instruction in the mother-tongue of the pupils (other than the regional language) in the High School stage. Pupils of the minority groups are satisfied with the provision of English medium sections.

Recommendation 3(a) of the Provincial Education Ministers' Conference of 1949 provides for the establishment of separate schools for pupils whose mother tongue is other than regional language in cases where the number of pupils justifies such a separate school. For the reasons already stated earlier in this Memorandum, Mysore Government

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consider that where there is a demand, additional sections for pupils of minority languages may be started in General schools rather than starting special separate schools for them.

Government consider that the recommendation 3(b)(c) suggesting that facilities for instruction in the medium of the mother tongue should be provided, if these facilities are desired by 1/3 of the pupils, requires modification. The minimum strength prescribed for a High School section is 45. But as stated with reference to the primary stage, High School Sections for students of linguistic minorities might be provided, even though the strength is less than the prescribed number.

In the interests of educational facilities for linguistic minorities, a separate section may be started provided the minimum strength is 25. However, the question of provision of satisfactory educational facilities for linguistic minorities is one which is of great fundamental concern not only to the State Government but to the Central Government also.

(b) CURRICULUM

The re-organised High Secondary curriculum which has been prepared after the reorganisation ~~of the States~~ incorporates a free and liberal policy in regard to languages. The new curriculum provides for the following:-

1) Mother-tongue, or regional language, or composite course of regional language and mother tongue, or composite course of regional language, mother tongue and classical language.

2) English (3) Hindi.

This three language formula is also in accordance with the recommendation of the Central Advisory Board of Education and the decision of the recent Education Ministers' Conference.

The new curriculum provides for pupils belonging to linguistic minorities studying their mother-tongue as one of the three languages to be taken. In addition it makes provision for a composite course of the mother-tongue and the regional language in lieu of complete course of the mother tongue.

Government consider that the provision of such composite courses as alternatives to complete courses in the mother tongue would be better than making the regional language compulsory throughout the Secondary stage, as has been recommended by the Central Advisory Board of Education in their recommendation 3(d) 1949.

(3) AFFILIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES USING MINORITY LANGUAGE.

The Mysore Government are of the view that affiliation of Colleges using minority languages to outside Universities (of Education authorities) is not desirable, except where the Universities in the State do not provide for education and examinations under those universities in the language used by them or other medium of instruction in those colleges.

Extended facilities at the Primary stage and High School stage which the State Government propose to give in the future for linguistic minorities will have to be continued in a corresponding though not identifical measure in the Colleges also. For whatever the developments in High School stage may be, they are bound to be reflected though after some time, in the development of colleges also.

It may not be possible for the colleges to give the same facilities

and to the same extent, as in the High Schools. Special facilities may have to be provided at the college level in centrally situated institutions. This is a matter for consideration by the Inter-University Board and the University Grants Commission, primarily.

4. USE OF MINORITY LANGUAGES FOR OFFICIAL PURPOSE.

The S.R. Commission had proposed that a State should be recognised as unilingual only where one language group constitutes about 70% or more of its entire population and that where there is a substantial minority constituting 30% or more of the population, the State should be recognised as bilingual for administrative purposes. There is no single minority group in Mysore State constituting 30% or more of the total population of the State and, therefore, the State is deemed to be unilingual. Since Kannada is the language spoken by a considerable proportion (63.60%) of the total population of the State of Mysore, the language for the official purposes of the unilingual State of Mysore would be Kannada only. In this connection, Government have already under consideration the question of passing of legislation to that end.

In this State, there is no single District which consists of 70% or more of the total population of the district constituting a minority group in the State as a whole.

This Government accept the safeguard proposed by the State Re-organisation Commission in terms set out in the Government of India memorandum but consider that para 8 will have no application to this State.

This Government accept the Commission's suggestion that in districts or smaller areas like municipalities and tahsils, where a linguistic minority constitutes 15 to 20% of the population of that area, it may be an advantage to get important Government notices and rules published in the language of the minority, in addition to any other language or languages in which such documents may otherwise be published in usual course. This Government have accordingly decided to take necessary steps in the matter.

5. Recognition of minority languages as the media for Examinations conducted for Recruitment to State Service:

At present no competitive examinations for recruitment are held in this State in languages other than English. Moreover, so far as Mysore State is concerned there is no single minority constituting about 15 to 20 per cent or more of the population of the State. There is also no minority having 70% or more of the total population in any District in the State. The question of recognising any minority language as a medium for examinations conducted for recruitment to State services does not, therefore, arise. It is also being provided that for the majority of posts, knowledge of Kannada, the main language of the State, shall not be obligatory as a condition of recruitment.

6. REVIEW OF RESIDENCE RULES AND REQUIREMENTS.

With the enactment by the Government of India of "The Public Employment (Requirement as to residence) Act, 1957", all restrictions in this behalf are removed. The Mysore State Civil Services General Recruitment Rules, 1957 impose no restriction of domicile for recruitment to the State Services.

7. RESTRICTION OF PRIVATE RIGHTS IN RESPECT OF CONTRACTS, FISHERIES ETC.

So far as this State is concerned, there has never been any discriminatory treatment of minorities in regard to freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse and the right to equality of opportunity. Gujaratis, Sindhis and other Commercial minority groups have always hailed the generosity with which they have been treated in Mysore and they on their part have made the best of this favourable

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The Government of Mysore have noted the views of the Government of India and have no comments to make at present.

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